

FORESTRY 436 Managing Non-industrial Private Forests Spring 2018

Instructor: Dr. Demchik (CNR 246; mdemchik@uwsp.edu): To Be Announced; open door policy

Class Time:

Sec 1	3:00-4:00	T R	TNR	320
Sec 2	4:00-5:00	M T	TNR	320

Course Description

Non-industrial private forest landowners own 59 percent of America woodlands and 57 percent of Wisconsin's woodlands. They account for a majority of the wood that is harvested which supplies America's forest products industry. This course is designed to introduce students to the skills necessary for agency, industry, and private enterprise foresters to work with family forest landowners.

Text

No textbook. We will use PDF's of papers and the WI DNR Silviculture and Forest Aesthetics Handbook.

Overall Plan

I want this class to be as interactive as possible. This will be a heavily activity based class, meaning if you don't prepare and participate, it will fail as a class.

Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate listening skills that allow a forester to combine a landowner's vague goals with the basic biology of the forest on their property to create a stand prescription.
2. Demonstrate effective communication with NIPF's that include:
 - a. Business letters
 - b. Emails
 - c. Phone calls
3. Describe factors that motivate Family Forest landowners to own and manage woodland properties.
4. Prepare an MFL plan and present the planned activities to a class
5. Demonstrate some basic forestry skills:
 - a. Basic wood identification
 - b. Basic volume data use

Assignments

Field Trips

There are two field trips for this class, tentatively scheduled for the week after spring break (April 2-4...not sure of the dates at time of syllabus). On one of the days, you will see a sawlog mill and a bolt mill, a managed and unmanaged forest and other things. On the other, you will see the Argonne Experimental Forest, an industrial forest managed using uneven age management since the late 1800's, you will grade logs, and watch them be milled as well as discuss veneer and bolts. These field trips are scheduled in coordination with the following classes: For 436 (this class), For 433 Regional Silviculture, For 424 Forest Pathology, For 329 Harvest Systems, For 370 Wood Products and NRES 457 Ecological Monitoring. None of those classes will be conflicting with these field trips (i.e. they will not be having regularly scheduled classes those days, as this is the class for those days). While you may have courses other than these, we hope that this is an efficient way to avoid conflicts.

Management Alternatives Presentation

The purpose of this assignment is to help you think about and craft management alternatives. This will be ½ way through the semester. To do this, you will need to use data that I give you. Your group will present three alternatives for managing the site (you get a total of 10 minutes):

- Investment timber only
- Wildlife
- Aesthetics

MFL Plan

You will prepare a MFL plan in your group from data that I give you. MFL plan preparation will be a topic of one lecture

Business Communications

You will be given specific assignments that will require you to prepare:

- A business letter that is a bid to prepare an MFL plan (a cold letter)
- Emails to an existing client that are responding to specific questions
- A phone call that targets various issues. This will actually be carried out in-class and critiqued by your classmates. I will provide specifics for this (as I am changing it up a bit from last year).
 - A logger who is grumbling about a specific job you set up
 - A landowner that is questioning you about your MFL plan
 - A DNR forester that is questioning your marking on a site

Deed Reading

We will have a discussion where you read several types of deeds and figure out who needs to sign agreements (i.e. MFL), what they actually own, etc.

Cost Estimation

- Develop a cost estimate for what it would cost you to prepare an MFL plan. Include planning time, field time, plan preparation and followup. Include a percent estimate for

insurance etc. Compare to the estimated rate per acre that the DNR uses. From this, develop a MFL bid protocol for a small business.

- Develop a cost estimate to mark a 40 acre northern hardwood stand

Discussions

Each of these activities will come with a quiz right before the discussion starts

1. Choosing What to Believe About Forests....
2. Family Forest Owners: An In-depth Profile (Pages 7-17)
SFFI Tele Segment Comparison Chart
3. Family Forest Owners: Insights (Pages 16-24)
4. Consulting Forester's View
5. Understanding and Reaching Family Forest Owners
Identifying Appropriate Communication Means...
6. The Effects of Forest Regeneration

Field Trip Paper

You will write a two page (ish) paper after the field trip that summarizes what you saw during the trip (half a page) and details anything important that you took out of the trip (the rest of the paper).

Grades

Management Alternatives Presentation	20%
MFL Plan	20%
Communications	20%
Cost Estimation	10%
Quizzes and Discussions	20%
Field Trip Paper	10%

Note: There are NO exams in this class. The final exam time will be a forestry program reflection activity, you are required to attend and points come out of the "Quizzes and Discussions" grade if you are absent.

Due to the number of scheduling issues, I will hand out a schedule separately, as I have it available.